



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: July 13, 2010

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Transportation Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Sole Source Vendor For Clean Air Express Transit Passes

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council find it in the City's best interest to approve the City of Santa Maria as the sole source vendor for purchasing Clean Air Express Transit Passes for City of Santa Barbara employees participating in the Work Trip Reduction Incentive Program, in accordance with Section 4.52.080 (k) of the Municipal Code; and authorize renewals for the next four fiscal years subject to Council approval of funding.

DISCUSSION:

On January 23, 2007, Council received a report from staff describing proposed enhancements to the City's existing Alternative Transportation Demand Management Program. This program was refashioned into the Work Trip Reduction Incentive Program (Program). The Program's purpose is to help the City meet both its Sustainability and Circulation Element Goals by setting the example as a model employer, and reducing the employee single-passenger driving rate by providing commuter benefits.

One of the benefits and incentives the City offers is a 75% subsidy towards the purchase of long distance bus passes. The Clean Air Express is the only service to provide long distance transit from Santa Maria and Lompoc to Santa Barbara. This year, the administration of the Clean Air Express services moved from the City of Lompoc to the City of Santa Maria.

The City of Santa Maria is the only vendor from which to purchase the Clean Air Express services. Staff recommends that Council approve this purchase. Section 4.52.070 (k) of the Municipal Code authorizes the purchase of goods or services without advertising after a determination by City Council that the goods or services are only available from one source and approval of the City Council.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The cost for Fiscal Year 2011's expense to the Clean Air Express is estimated to be \$35,000, making adjustments for potential fee increases and anticipated increased participation. There are sufficient funds in the Alternative Transportation Program in the Streets Fund to cover the cost of the services. The cost of the program is funded by employee and City contributions.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

The Clean Air Express, with its current employee participation, saves over 250,000 miles per year of drive-alone trips by participating employees.

Since the Work Trip Program's initiation on July 1, 2007, over 1.4 million miles have been cut out of City employee commutes, 37,000 trips to the workplace have been eliminated, and 70,000 gallons of fuel were saved. As a result, 1.4 million pounds of emissions, and over \$800,000 dollars in employee commuting costs were saved.

Over the last three years, 310 employees have chosen not to drive alone to the workplace.

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SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office